

**To:** McGrath, Shaun[McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov]  
**From:** Ostrander, David  
**Sent:** Wed 9/23/2015 5:28:01 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Winter Discharge Treatment

yes

**From:** McGrath, Shaun  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 11:23 AM  
**To:** Ostrander, David  
**Subject:** FW: Winter Discharge Treatment

Can you respond? Probably good to add these – particularly re: permit.

**From:** Gray, David  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 11:20 AM  
**To:** StClair, Christie; McGrath, Shaun; Deitz, Randy  
**Cc:** Purchia, Liz; Distefano, Nichole; Ostrander, David; Braun, Richard; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura; Calanog, Steve; Card, Joan; Jenkins, Laura Flynn; Russo, Rebecca; Hull, George; Smith, Roxanne  
**Subject:** RE: Winter Discharge Treatment

Quick question while we are holding – I anticipate questions regarding the water quality limits that the treatment system will be required to meet and/or questions about if it will have a discharge permit. Do we have an answers to those questions?

David

**From:** StClair, Christie  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 10:25 AM  
**To:** Gray, David; McGrath, Shaun; Deitz, Randy  
**Cc:** Purchia, Liz; Distefano, Nichole; Ostrander, David; Braun, Richard; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura; Calanog, Steve; Card, Joan; Jenkins, Laura Flynn; Russo, Rebecca; Hull, George; Smith, Roxanne  
**Subject:** Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

All - Here is the final, formatted press release. Once Shaun green-lights, we'll leave an hour for notifications and then send the release to our GKM distribution list + post on the GKM site.

**CONTACT:**  
[Press@epa.gov](mailto:Press@epa.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Sept. 23, 2015

## **EPA Announces Gold King Mine Water Treatment System for Winter 2015-16**

(Washington, DC) -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that a portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) to continue treating water discharged from the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. This system will replace temporary settling ponds constructed by the EPA in August 2015.

The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F, making it unsafe to manually treat water at the mine site. The schedule calls for the treatment system to be operational by Oct. 14, 2015. EPA's contractor, ER LLC, awarded a subcontract Sept. 22, 2015 to Alexco Environmental Group (US) Inc. to complete the work.

This system will treat the approximately 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to neutralize the mine discharge and remove solids and metals. Although the Gold King Mine discharge is just one of many into Cement Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek.

The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

Additional information about EPA's Gold King Mine response: [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine)

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Christie St. Clair

US EPA Office of Public Affairs

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